

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01926 281732Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----281735Z 012275 /41
O 281235Z DEC 76
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3967
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 1926

EXDIS

EO 11652:GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, IZ
SUBJECT: IRAQ UN MISSION ACQUISITION OF FIREARMS

REF: USUN 6284

1. USINT SOURCE WHO HAS CLOSE LINKS WITH IRAQI INTELLIGENCE TOLD ME THAT QUESTION OF DECLARING MEMBER OF USINT STAFF PNG IN RETALIATION FOR TAYYARS EXPULSION WAS CONSIDERED IN A HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON DECEMBER 27. NO DECISION WAS REACHED AND QUESTION WAS POSTPONED FOR LATER CONSIDERATION.
 2. INSTEAD, GOI IS TRANSMITTING SUBSTANCE OF MY DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY ON DECEMBER 23 (BAGHDAD 1905) TO AMBASSADOR SHAIKHLI WITH REQUEST FOR HIS COMMENTS. APPARENTLY, SHAIKHLI HAD SERIOUSLY MISINFORMED GOI ON SUBSTANCE OF OUR APPROACH TO HIM IN NEW YORK.
 3. ON BALANCE, THIS IS ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT. IT APPEARS THAT GOI IS BEGINNING TO REALIZE THAT IT WAS MISLED BY SHAIKHLI AND TAYYAR.
 4. I HAVE POINTED OUT THAT PNG OF A USINT STAFFER WOULD PROBABLY TRIGGER FURTHER PUBLICITY ABOUT THIS WHOLE AFFAIR WHICH WOULD NOT
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- BE IN INTERESTS OF IRAQ. IT STILL POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT GOI WILL CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL TO DECLARE USINT STAFF MEMBER PNG AS A MEANS OF "SAVING FACE".
5. I RECOMMEND THAT, IF POSSIBLE, FURTHER PUBLICITY ON THIS SUBJECT BE AVOIDED UNTIL GOI HAS HAD TIME TO DECIDE HOW TO REACT.

WILEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, PROCUREMENT, MACHINE GUNS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BAGHDA01926
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760474-0129
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976128/aaaaagmu.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 6284
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQ UN MISSION ACQUISITION OF FIREARMS
TAGS: PFOR, US, IZ, (AL-TAYYAR, ALAEDDIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006